

THE BLUE MOON

KAC HOME

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Public Forums Gather Valuable Information for the Arts Council

A series of meetings have been held across Kentucky to gather input for "Creating a Vision for the Future of the Arts in Kentucky." The first input came from an arts leadership dialogue between members of the boards of the Kentucky Arts Council, Kentucky Citizens for the Arts and Arts Kentucky at the Arts Council's September board meeting. Then from mid-October through early November, the Arts Council, Craft Marketing and Folklife Program staff teamed with START Initiative performing arts center partners to hold public forums in thirteen Kentucky communities.

The planing of these meetings was a trial run for the use of the integrative approach to building participation. Pleased with the efforts of the local communities, Arts Council Executive Director Gerri Combs said, "We broadened; there were definitely better turnouts than at the last series of long range planning meetings. We diversified; there were different faces that you don't usually see at this type of thing and we have definitely deepened our relationships with the people we already work with."

Each planning team was charged with identifying a target group to work with, including local arts in the event, modeling accessibility standards when possible, and collecting the thoughts of attendees about the future of the arts in Kentucky. Those topics on the agenda centered on the goals of the Arts Council and the top issues of concern to Kentuckians according to recent research of the Kentucky Long-Term Policy Research Center.

It's Not Too Late to Participate in the Process

If you didn't get chance to attend one of the meetings, you can now go to a [Web survey](#) that has been developed as a result of the initial input from the public forums. Take a few moments to let us hear from you!

As all this information is compiled, analyzed and synthesized, it will shape a plan to inform the work of the Arts Council from 2004-2008 as well as create a grassroots vision for the state regarding the future of the arts in the lives of Kentuckians. KAC expects to release the plan to the public in July of 2003.

Here's a rundown of meetings that were held last fall.

ASHLAND

Date: October 24

Location: Paramount Arts Center

Planning Partner: Paramount Arts Center

Facilitator: Gerri Combs

Target Group: Family Resources Centers

Attendance: 15-30 (depending on time)

Local Arts Performance or Demonstration: Wiley Dew



BOWLING GREEN

Date: October 22

Location: Presbyterian Church

Planning Partners: Capitol Arts Alliance, Community Action of SoKy, and

Holy Trinity Lutheran School Facilitator: Jaana Sipila

Target Group: Daycare Providers

Attendance: 65

Local Arts Performance or Demonstration: Bowling Green Chamber Orchestra Players



HENDERSON

Date: October 22

Planning Partners: Henderson Area Arts Alliance

Location: Henderson Fine Arts Center

Facilitator: Libby Alexander

Target Group: African-Americans

Attendance: 23

Local Arts Performance or Demonstration: E.J. Simmons Ensemble

HOPKINSVILLE

Date: October 24

Planning Partner: Pennyroyal Arts Council

Location: Alhambra Theater

Facilitator: Constance Alexander

Target Group: Educators

Attendance: 25

Local Arts Performance or Demonstration: Beau Haddock

LEXINGTON

Date: October 29

Planning Partner: Singletary Center for the Arts
Location: Downtown Arts Center
Facilitator: Steve Kay
Target Group: 25-35 age group
Attendance: 106
Local Arts Performance: Guitarist Logan Leet

LOUISVILLE

Date: October 22
Planning Partner and Location: Kentucky Center for the Arts
Facilitator: Steve Kay
Target Group: New Immigrant Groups who live at the Americana Apartments
Attendance: 80+
Local Arts Performance: Governor's School for the Arts participants and the Ochion Jewel Duet



MADISONVILLE

Date: November 4
Planning Partner and Location: Glema Mahr Center for the Arts
Facilitator: Liz Fentress
Attendance: 12

NORTHERN KY

Date: October 22
Planning Partners: Covington Community Center, My Nose turns Red Theatre Company, Carnegie Visual and Performing Arts Center, Behringer-Crawford Museum
Location: Northern Kentucky Convention Center
Facilitator: Liz Fentress
Target Group: Broadening Constituencies of Planning Organizations
Attendance: 25



OWENSBORO

Date: October 21
Planning Partner and Location: RiverPark Center
Facilitator: Libby Alexander
Target Group: RiverPark Center Diversity Committee
Attendance: 20
Local Arts Performance: Mexican traditional dance by Connie Caceres, Sr. Fran Wilhelm and dancer and guitarist Anidel Rollero, and Irish bagpipes performance by William Nesmith



PADUCAH

Date: October 29

Planning Partners: Paducah Community College Fine Arts Center, Four Rivers Center for the Performing Arts

Location: Maiden Alley Cinema

Facilitator: Constance Alexander

Target Groups: Local Educators and the African American Community

Attendance: 50

Local Arts Performance: Singer/songwriter Shawn Chester

PRESTONSBURG

Date: October 22

Location: Mountain Arts Center

Facilitator: Bill Andy Farley

Target Group: Educators

Attendance: 47

Local Arts Performance Keith Caudill



SOMERSET

Date: October 17

Planning Partner and Location: The Center for Rural Development

Facilitator: Gwen Heffner

Target Groups: African American, rural

Attendance: 42

Local Arts Performance: Open Mike Gospel and Traditional singers including Jennifer Rose and James Barleston



WINCHESTER

Date: October 28

Planning Partner and Location: Leeds Center for the Arts

Facilitator: Gwen Hefner

Target Group: Parents and Educators

Attendance: 40

Local Arts: Craft exhibits by Mary and Robin Reed, Kelly Smallwood and

Linda Caudill and music by Homer Ledford and Lauren Mink Other Art: Hands-on art activities for children while their parents were in the meeting. There were 10 children present and four adult artists/arts educators (Michelle Ramsey, Julie Baumgardner, Marilyn Bowman and Suez* Early) that with them in painting and dance. Lauren Mink (a Winchester student and member of the Junior Opry) also provided music for the children.

